

1000 Introduction

1100 Introduction/Authority

Section 4202 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) amended Subsection (j) of Section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) (33 U.S.C. 1321 (j)) to address the development of a National Planning and Response System. As part of this system, Area Committees have been established for each area designated by the President. These Area Committees are comprised of qualified personnel from Federal, State, and local agencies. Each Area Committee, under the direction of the Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC) for the area, is responsible for developing an Area Contingency Plan (ACP) which, when implemented in conjunction with the National Contingency Plan (NCP), shall be adequate to remove a worst case discharge of oil or a hazardous substance, and to mitigate or prevent a substantial threat of such a discharge, from a vessel, offshore facility, or onshore facility operating in or near the geographic area. Each Area Committee is also responsible for working with State and local officials to pre-plan for joint response efforts, including appropriate procedures for mechanical recovery, dispersal, shoreline cleanup, protection of sensitive environmental areas, and protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of fisheries and wildlife. The Area Committee is also required to work with State and local officials to expedite decisions for the use of dispersants and other mitigating substances and devices.

The functions of designating areas, appointing Area Committee members, determining the information to be included in Area Contingency Plans, and reviewing and approving Area Contingency Plans have been delegated by Executive Order 12777 of 22 October 1991, to the Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard (through the Secretary of Homeland Security) for the coastal zone, and to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency for the inland zone. The term "coastal zone" is defined in the current NCP (40 CFR 300.5) to mean all United States waters subject to the tide, United States waters of the Great Lakes, specified ports and harbors on inland rivers, and the waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The Coast Guard has designated as areas, those portions of the Captain of the Port (COTP) zones that are within the coastal zone, for which Area Committees will prepare Area Contingency Plans. The COTP zones are described in Coast Guard regulations (33 CFR Part 3).

1200 Geographic Boundaries

1210 COTP San Diego

The San Diego Area consists of one planning area that is consistent with the Coast Guard Captain of the Port (COTP) San Diego Area of Responsibility (AOR). The Coast Guard COTP San Diego is the pre-designated Federal OSC for oil discharge and hazardous substance release in the coastal zone from the boundary of San Diego County, California, starting and ending at the sea, including the California Islands south and east of a line that is drawn 255 Degrees True from latitude 33 Degrees True 22.5' North longitude 117 Degrees 35.7' West (San Mateo Point).

1220 Coastal

33 CFR 3.55-15 (b) defines the San Diego Captain of the Port (also OSC) area as: "The boundary of San Diego County, California, starting and ending at the sea, but also including the California islands south and east of a line that is drawn 255 Degrees T from latitude 33 Degrees 22.5' North, longitude 117 Degrees 35.7' West (San Mateo Point)." The Coastal zone consists of coastal waters and internal waters as far inland as the *Demarcation Line*. **The coastal zone no longer includes the land seaward of the Demarcation Lines, just the water.**

1230 Inland

Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan delineates the Coast Guard and EPA OSC's boundaries as: "Beginning at the International border and the sea, east and north along the eastern limits of Border Field State Park to the mouth of the Tijuana River; across the river's mouth to the eastern limit of the Silver Strand State Beach to Palm Ave.; east to I-5; north to Harbor Drive; north to Scott St.; South to Talbot St.; West to Hill St.; West to Sunset Cliffs Blvd.; north to I-8; east on I-8 to I-5; north to Grand Ave.; west to Mission Blvd.; north to La Jolla Blvd.; north to Prospect St.; North to Torrey Pines Rd.; north along Torrey Pines Rd. to Route S21 (North Torrey Pines Rd.); S21 north to I-5 (Oceanside); north on I-5 to the San Diego/Orange County Line."

1300 Area Committee

1310 Purpose

The primary role of the Area Committee is to act as a preparedness and planning body. "Also refer to [Section 1005.02.1\(a\) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan](#)"

1320 Organization

Area Committees are made up of experienced environmental/response representatives from Federal, State and local government agencies with definitive responsibilities for the area's environmental integrity. Each member is empowered by their own agency to make decisions on behalf of the agency and to commit the agency to carrying out roles and responsibilities as described in this plan. The pre-designated Federal On-scene Coordinator for the area will serve as chairman of the Committee. He/she will designate the vice-chairman, select the Committee members, and provide general direction and guidance for the Committee. The OSC should solicit the advice of the RRT to determine appropriate representatives from federal and state agencies. The Area Committee is encouraged to solicit advice, guidance, or expertise from all appropriate sources and establish subcommittees as necessary to accomplish the preparedness and planning tasks.

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1330 Charter Members

1400 National Response System

1410 National Response Structure

[Refer to Section 1002.01 of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.](#)

1410.1 SONS

1420 RRT Structure

[Refer to Section 1004.02 of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.](#)

1430 Area Response Structure (SONS)

Refer to [Sections 1004.11](#) and [3005.01 of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.](#)

1430.1 Federal/State Role in Incident Response

1440 Incident Command System

[Refer to Section 1002.01.1 of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.](#)

1450 Area Exercise Mechanism (PREP)

[Refer to Section 1006 of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.](#)

1460 National Response Plan

[Refer to Section 1003.02 of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.](#)

1470 Federal Radiological Response Plan

[Refer to Section 1003.02.1 of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.](#)

1500 State/Local Response System

[Refer to Section 1002.03 of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.](#)

1600 National Policy and Doctrine

[Refer to Section 1002 of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.](#)

1610 Public vs Private Resource Utilization

Refer to [Section 1002.04](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

1620 Best Response Concept

Refer to [Section 1002.02.8\(a\)](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

1630 Cleanup Assessment Protocol (How Clean is Clean)

Refer to [Section 1002.05](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

1640 Dispersant Pre-Approval/Monitoring/Decision Protocol

Refer to [Sections 1007.05](#) and [4007.05](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

1650 Insitu Burn Approval/Monitoring/Decision Protocol

Refer to [Sections 1007.06](#) and [4007.06](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

1660 Bioremediation Approval/Monitoring/Decision Protocol

Refer to [Sections 1007.08](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

1670 Fish and Wildlife Acts Compliance (Migratory Bird Act, Marine Mammal Act, Endangered Species Act, etc)

Refer to [Section 1002.02.4\(a\)](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

1680 Protection of Historic Properties (National Historic Preservation Act)

Refer to [Section 1002.02.3](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

1690 Alternative Response Technology Evaluation System (ARTES)

Refer to [Section 1007.10](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

16100 Specialized Monitoring of Applied Response Technology (SMART)

Refer to [Section 1007.09](#) of the Region 9 Regional Contingency Plan.

1700 Reserved

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1900 Reserved for Area/District